

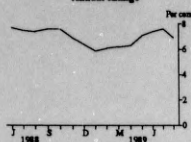
Statistics Weekly

Thursday, 9 November 1989

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PRICES OF MANUFACTURED GOODS
Annual change



Moderation in prices of manufactured goods ...

Prices of manufactured goods rose by 0.1 per cent in August, the lowest monthly increase since December 1988.

The small monthly rise resulted in the annual rate of increase dropping back to 6.9 per cent, halting the upward trend shown since January.

No individual price movement had a significant effect on the overall index in August. The increase for the month reflects small price increases for a large number of products, offset by a number of price decreases.

The table below shows that price movements in the various sectors of manufacturing have differed significantly over the last year, with the largest increase being for basic metal products.

PRICES OF MANUFACTURED GOODS, AUGUST 1989
Percentage change

Manufacturing Sector	From previous month	From corresponding month of previous year
Food & beverages	0.1	6.8
Clothing & footwear	0.8	7.0
Chemicals & petroleum	-0.5	7.2
Basic metal products	-0.3	9.5
Fabricated metal products	-0.1	7.8
Transport equipment	0.9	5.6
Other industrial machinery	0.2	5.2
All manufacturing industry	0.1	6.9

For further information order the publication *Price Indexes of Articles Produced by Manufacturing Industry, Australia (6412.0)* or contact Peter Cordy on (062) 52 5541

... as sheep lead input prices down

Prices of materials used in manufacturing industry fell by 0.7 per cent in August, the first fall in the index since December 1988.

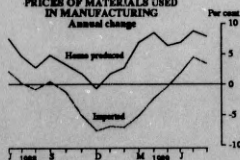
The annual rate of increase in August dropped to 6.3 per cent, sharply down on the 7.3 per cent recorded in July and halting the upward trend of the previous seven months.

The fall in August was mainly due to falls in the prices of a number of basic materials.

Among these, the main price decrease was for sheep and lambs, where seasonal factors and problems in the export trade with the Middle East resulted in increased domestic supply and lower prices.

Continued over

PRICES OF MATERIALS USED
IN MANUFACTURING
Annual change



Lower prices for nickel concentrates, and for imported basic iron and steel products, also contributed to the downturn. The main offsetting price increase was for zinc concentrates, under the influence of higher world prices. The table below shows the impact of these and other price movements on the price indexes for imported and home produced materials.

PRICES OF MATERIALS USED IN MANUFACTURING, AUGUST 1989
Percentage change

Source of material	From previous month	From corresponding month of previous year
Imported	-0.6	3.4
Home produced	-0.8	7.9
Total	-0.7	6.3

For further information order the publication *Price Indexes of Materials Used in Manufacturing Industries, Australia* (6411.0) or contact Kevin Norton on (062) 52 5637

Red meat slaughter down despite sheep glut

Total red meat production decreased slightly in September 1989 despite a very large increase in sheep slaughterings.

Production of red meat, seasonally adjusted, fell by 1.7 per cent in September to 208,000 tonnes. The table below shows the movement in livestock numbers slaughtered in each individual category of red meat production.

NUMBERS OF LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTERED, SEPTEMBER 1989
Percentage change

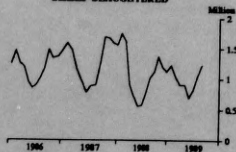
	From previous month	From corresponding month of previous year
Bulls, bullocks, steers	-0.7	-2.3
Cows and heifers	-3.1	-9.6
Calves	-32.8	-0.2
Sheep	17.2	21.5
Lambs	-1.1	-3.6
Pigs	-3.8	-6.8

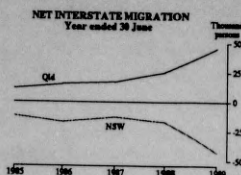
The only livestock category to show an increase in slaughterings was sheep. There were 1.2 million sheep slaughtered in September — an increase of 17.2 per cent on August and 21.5 per cent on September last year.

While some of this increase is due to recurring seasonal factors, it also reflects a glut in the sheep market caused by unusually good seasonal conditions and a build-up of sheep numbers as a result of high wool prices in recent years.

For further information, order the publication *Livestock Products, Australia* (7215.0), or contact Elaine Hill on (062) 52 5337

SHEEP SLAUGHTERED





The population is heading north!

There has been a marked acceleration in interstate migration to Queensland, especially from New South Wales.

Queensland gained a net 12,500 persons through interstate migration in the June quarter, following another big gain of 14,900 in the previous quarter. In 1988-89, Queensland gained population from all States and Territories, but primarily at the expense of the two largest States. It gained 29,700 from NSW and 10,100 from Victoria in the year.

The net loss of population from NSW was equally dramatic. Apart from the 29,700 it lost to Queensland, NSW lost a further 5,300 people to Western Australia. Smaller net losses to all other States and Territories except Victoria brought the total net exodus from NSW for the year to 39,100. This net loss for the State was nearly three times the figure for 1987-88.

NET INTERSTATE MIGRATION
Thousands

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT
Year ended 30 June—								
1988	-14.2	-14.8	26.2	-0.3	8.4	-3.4	-4.6	2.8
1989	-39.1	-12.9	45.3	0.8	9.5	-1.3	-3.0	0.7

For further information, order the publication *Australian Demographic Statistics* (3101.0), or contact Peter Routh on (062) 52 6027

Fertility declines as child-bearing trends continue

Australians are having fewer children and are having them later in life, according to the ABS findings on births in Australia in 1988.

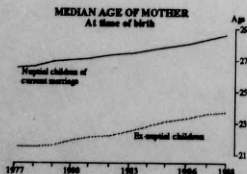
The recently released data show that Australia's fertility rate in 1988 was 1,840 children per 1,000 women. This is equivalent to a net reproduction rate of 0.88, some 12 per cent below the replacement level.

The figures show a continuation of the long term fertility decline which began in the early 1970s. This caused a fall below the long-term replacement rate in the mid-1970s, and the rate has been declining further throughout the 1980s.

Meanwhile, women both within and outside marriage are tending to have children at an older age.

In 1988, the median age of mothers of nuptial children was 28.6 years, an increase of two years on the median age eleven years earlier. Similarly, the median age of mothers of ex-nuptial children rose by two years to 23.7 years between 1977 and 1988.

Continued over



The data show, however, that while the fertility rate of women aged less than 30 has declined considerably, that of women aged 30 and over has increased during the 1980s.

AGE-SPECIFIC BIRTH RATES
(Number of births per thousand females)

	Age group of mother						
	Less than 20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45 & over
Average annual rates—							
1971-75	48.0	154.0	166.9	85.0	33.7	8.5	0.6
1976-80	30.7	116.4	143.9	73.8	23.8	4.8	0.3
1981-85	25.7	100.8	144.5	82.0	25.4	4.4	0.3
Annual rates—							
1986	21.8	90.0	141.9	88.7	27.2	4.3	0.2
1987	20.6	85.2	139.8	90.6	28.9	4.8	0.3
1988	20.2	81.8	137.2	93.4	30.5	4.6	0.2

For further information, order the publication *Births, Australia (3301.0)* or contact Mark Patton on (062) 52 6671

Snapshot of professional photographers

A detailed study of the photography services industry has confirmed that the industry is completely dominated by small businesses. Of the estimated 1,550 businesses in commercial photography, only 11 employed 20 or more people in 1986-87 when the ABS Service Industries Survey was undertaken. Average employment per enterprise was less than three, with one-third of all those employed being working proprietors or partners.

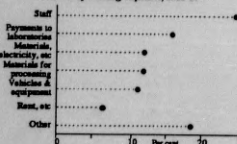
The Photography Services industry is defined to include businesses mainly engaged in commercial, industrial, advertising, fashion and portrait photography.

In 1986-87 industry turnover was estimated at \$183 million, with a total operating surplus of about \$23 million and employment of 43,000. In real terms, it is estimated that turnover for the industry was unchanged between 1985-86 and 1986-87.

The statistics on the Photography Services industry are part of a series of detailed industry studies obtained from the ABS Service Industries Survey. They also complement data on the photographic developing and printing, and the photographic equipment and supplies retailing industries which are published as part of the ABS economic censuses of manufacturing and retailing.

The publication contains statistics by size of business, staff employment status and types of takings and expenses. A proforma has been included to enable businesses to compare their own takings, operating expenses and profit with the average result for the industry as a whole. For example, the percentage contribution of different types of cost may be compared with the industry average as shown in the accompanying graph.

PHOTOGRAPHY SERVICES INDUSTRY
Share of operating expenses, 1986-87



Inquiries

The ABS supplies statistical information:

- through its bookshops
- by mail order (including subscription)
- by facsimile
- electronically.

To order any of the publications that appear in *Statistics Weekly* or to inquire about the statistics and services available from the ABS, contact Information Services at any of the offices listed below. An Information Consultancy Service in each office provides assistance of a more extensive or complex nature.

ABS Central Office

- ☒ PO BOX 10
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- ☒ (062) 52 6627
- FAX (062) 53 1404

ABS State Offices

- ☒ NSW (02) 268 4611
- Vic. (03) 615 7000
- Qld (07) 222 6351
- WA (09) 323 5140
- SA (08) 237 7100
- Tas. (002) 20 5800
- NT (089) 81 3456

Any suggestions for improvement to this publication should be addressed to:

The Editor
Statistics Weekly
(062) 52 6917

Statistics Weekly
9 November 1989

All the week's releases: 1 to 7 November

General

Publications Issued in October 1989 (1102.0; \$4.50)
Digest of Economic Statistics, Aust., September 1989 (1305.0; \$5.00)
Statistics Weekly, 2 November 1989 (1318.0; \$3.50)
Monthly Summary of Statistics, Vic., October 1989 (1303.2; \$7.50)
Tasmanian Statistical Indicators, October 1989 (1303.6; \$7.50)

Demography

Australian Demographic Statistics, June Qtr 1989 (3101.0; \$7.50)
Overseas Arrivals and Departures, Aust., September 1989 (3401.0; \$4.00)

Social statistics

Apparent Consumption of Selected Foodstuffs, Aust., 1988-89, Preliminary (4315.0; \$3.00)
Health and Welfare Establishments, Qld, 1987-88 (4302.3; \$11.50)

National accounts, finance and foreign trade

Lease Finance, Aust., August 1989 (5644.0; \$4.50)

Labour statistics and prices

Labour Statistics In Brief, 1989 (6104.0; free)
Price Indexes of Materials Used in Manufacturing Industries, Aust., August 1989 (6411.0; \$8.00)
Price Indexes of Articles Produced By Manufacturing Industry, Aust., August 1989 (6412.0; \$5.00)
Price Indexes of Materials Used in Coal Mining, Aust., August 1989 (6415.0; \$3.00)

Agriculture

Livestock and Livestock Products, Qld, 1987-88 (7221.3; \$11.50)

Secondary industry and distribution

Production of Household Appliances and Electrical Equipment, Aust., July 1989 (8357.0; \$5.00) (Previously: Production of Electrical Appliances, Aust.)
Production of Clothing and Footwear, Aust., July 1989 (8358.0; \$8.00)
Production of Building Materials and Fittings, Aust., July 1989 (8361.0; \$5.00)
Building Approvals, NSW, September 1989 (8731.1; \$8.00)
Building Approvals, SA, September 1989 (8731.4; \$8.00)
Building Approvals, Tas., September 1989 (8731.6; \$8.00)
Building Approvals, NT, September 1989 (8731.7; \$5.00)
Tourist Accommodation: Selected Establishments, ACT, September 1989 (8646.8; \$5.00)

Transport

Motor Vehicle Registrations, Tas., September 1989 (9303.6; \$3.25)

Training expenditure statistics

The ABS has been conducting a new survey which will show how much employers are spending on training their employees. Results are expected to be released early in 1990. The information will be useful to employers, government, industry and employer associations, trade unions, and education and training institutions to help them analyse and evaluate Australia's training effort.

A free information paper, *Development of the Employer Training Expenditure Survey* (6355.0), is now available, describing the purpose, data items and design of the survey as well as providing examples of the tables to be produced. To obtain a copy, call Information Services at the ABS in your capital city (telephone numbers listed on this page). For further details about the survey contact Terry Sharp on (062) 52 7136.

Calendar of key releases

Expected releases over the fortnight to 21 November

November

9

The Labour Force, Aust., October 1989, Preliminary
(6202.0; \$8.00)

The Labour Force, Aust. — Preliminary Data on Floppy Disk,
October 1989 (6271.0; \$60.00)

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Average Weekly Earnings, Aust., August Qtr 1989, Preliminary
(6301.0; \$3.00)

Retail Trade, Aust., September 1989 (8501.0; \$8.00)

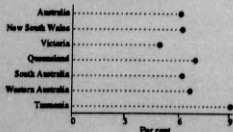
The latest ...

Changes to key State indicators — consolidated to
7 November 1989

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
— Percentage change from same period previous year —									
New capital expenditure (June qtr 89)*	20.8	11.7	13.1	3.5	6.2	78.4	n.a.	n.a.	15.9
Retail turnover (Aug. 89) (trend estimate)	14.6	5.2	9.4	7.1	13.0	10.1	n.a.	6.0	10.4
New motor vehicle registrations (Sept. 89)*	-2.2	51.6	-3.7	16.4	0.7	n.a.	7.0	82.7	13.2
Number of dwelling unit approvals (Sept. 89)	-14.7	-27.0	-38.9	-6.0	-38.1	-31.4	-47.5	52.5	-26.7
Value of total building work done (June 89)	38.6	42.1	34.4	22.9	54.9	17.4	-8.5	-3.0	36.8
Employed persons (Sept. 89)*	3.6	5.3	6.1	5.3	3.6	3.6	4.7	6.1	4.7
Capital city consumer price index (Sept. qtr 89)	8.1	8.3	7.8	7.6	7.8	7.2	7.0	5.6	8.0
Average weekly earnings (full- time adult ordinary time) (May 89)	9.0	6.6	7.7	6.9	8.0	8.2	5.6	6.6	7.8
Population (June 89)	1.1	1.3	3.2	1.1	3.0	0.6	0.2	1.6	1.6
Room occupancy rates in licensed hotels and motels, etc (Mar. qtr 89)	1.5	-0.7	-3.2	1.0	2.9	4.1	-2.7	-7.6	-1.1

* Seasonally adjusted for States (but not Territories)

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE Seasonally adjusted September 1989



The latest ...

8

Key national indicators – consolidated to 7 November 1989

				Latest figure available		Percentage change (a) on	
				Original	Seasonally adjusted	Previous period	Corresponding period last year
Period							
National production							
Gross domestic product	— current prices	\$m	June qtr 89	85,333	87,970	2.5	13.1
	— 1984–85 prices			60,986	62,991	0.6	3.9
Industrial activity							
New capital expenditure	— current prices	\$m	June qtr 89	7,822	7,434	3.8	15.9
	— 1984–85 prices			6,240	5,911	2.6	18.1
Expected new capital expenditure		"	Six months to Dec. 89	15,157	n.a.	n.a.	15.1
Retail turnover	— current prices	"	August 89	6,559	6,724	–1.5	10.8
	— 1984–85 prices	"	June qtr 89	14,145	14,642	0.0	3.5
New motor vehicle registrations		No.	Sept. 89	55,232	55,231	10.2	13.2
Dwelling unit approvals		"	"	12,394	12,440	5.5	–24.0
Value of all building approvals		\$m	"	2,309	2,411	24.1	4.1
Value of total building work done	— current prices	"	June qtr 89	7,622	7,711	7.6	36.9
	— 1984–85 prices	"	"	5,138	5,198	4.7	21.1
Manufacturers' sales		"	June qtr 89	34,261	34,196	3.4	14.6
Expected manufacturers' sales		"	Six months to Dec. 89	70,922	n.a.	n.a.	12.0
Labour							
Employed persons		'000	Sept. 89	7,854.4	7,813.8	0.2	4.7
Unemployment rate †		%	"	6.0	6.1	0.2	–0.9
Participation rate †		"	"	63.8	63.5	0.1	1.0
Job vacancies		'000	August 89	64.3	n.a.	–12.1	–2.3
Average weekly overtime per employee		hours	"	1.5	n.a.	1.6	10.7
Prices, profits and wages							
Consumer price index	1980–81 = 100.0		Sept. qtr 89	197.0	n.a.	2.3	8.0
Price index of materials used in manufacturing industry	1984–85 = 100.0		August 89	119.2	n.a.	–0.7	6.3
Price index of articles produced by manufacturing industry	1968–69 = 100.0		"	549.0	n.a.	0.1	6.9
Company profits before income tax		\$m	June qtr 89	4,610	5,054	9.3	24.6
Average weekly earnings (Full-time adults; ordinary time)		\$	May 89	501.10	n.a.	1.8	7.8
Interest rates (b) (monthly average)							
90-day bank bills †		% per annum	Sept. 89	18.35	n.a.	0.4	4.6
10-year Treasury bonds †		"	"	13.65	n.a.	0.7	1.7
Balance of payments							
Exports of merchandise		\$m	Sept. 89	3,996	4,092	3.7	18.0
Imports of merchandise		"	"	–4,402	–4,726	1.5	–33.8
Balance on merchandise trade (c)		"	"	–406	–634	25.7	–875.4
Balance of goods and services (c)		"	"	–849	–923	20.6	–456.0
Balance on current account (c)		"	"	–1,776	–2,016	7.8	–92.0
Terms of trade (d)	1984–85 = 100.0		June qtr 89	n.a.	112.8	–0.3	11.5
Foreign investment							
Net foreign debt		\$m	June qtr 89	108,159	n.a.	3.7	19.8
Net foreign liabilities		"	"	140,906	n.a.	4.5	16.3
Exchange rates (monthly average)							
US\$		per \$A	Sept. 89	0.7721	n.a.	1.3	–2.6
Trade weighted index	May 1970 = 100.0		"	60.6	n.a.	2.4	–0.1
Other indicators							
Population (estimated resident)		million	June 89	16.8	n.a.	0.4	1.6
Overseas visitors		'000	August 89	161	181	–4.7	–17.6

(a) Based on seasonally adjusted figures where available. (b) Source: Reserve Bank of Australia. (c) For percentage changes, a minus sign indicates an increase in the deficit; no sign means a decrease in the deficit or an increase in the surplus. (d) The ratio of the price of goods and services for exports to that for imports.

NOTES: † = change is shown in terms of percentage points. n.a. = not available.

Figures have been taken from a variety of ABS publications. Copies may be obtained from Information Services (see page 6). Some of the figures shown are preliminary, some final, and some are revisions of previously published figures. Users should check the latest relevant publication or with the ABS Information Services if the status of the statistic is important.

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